

Treasury Department,

BUREAU OF THE MINT.

Washington, D. C.

January 10th., 1882

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 7th. inst. informing me that your records do not show that any Instructions were given by the Secretary of the Treasury prior to the Act of 1873 regarding the distribution of minor coins, except in the form of circulars for distribution to parties inquiring how to procure them, of which no copies can be found.

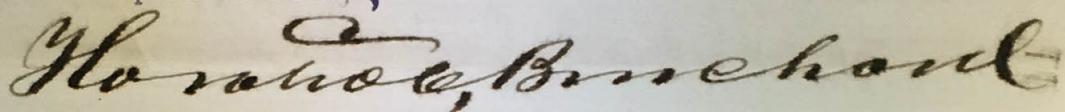
I was aware of the circulars to which you refer issued, during the last year, from the Secretary's Office, but I asked only for Instructions issued prior to the passage of the Coinage Act, for the reason that, prior to that date, the delivery was under the direction of the Secretary; but that Act placed the distribution of minor coins exclusively under the direction of the Director of the Mint. In the exercise of the discretion vested in him by law, Director Linderman issued the circular of April 16th., 1873, which, of course, is in force, unless it has been subsequently annulled or modified by the Director.

You say in your letter of the 7th. inst., "and acting under the authority contained in your letter of the 6th. the transportation on the minor coin will be paid, as heretofore, by the Mint." My letter of the 6th. inst. was not intended and does

(2)

not contain any authority or direction in regard to the free transportation of minor coins, and I have made no order on the subject. Whatever authority, if any exists, for the payment by the Mint of cost of transportation will be found in the circulars or orders of my predecessor.

Respectfully,

A cursive handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Horatio Blanchard".

Director.

A. Loudon Snowden, Esq.,

Supt. Mint of the U.S.,

Philadelphia, Pa.

D. M.
Wash D. C.
January 10/82

H. G. Buckland

Called only for copies
of circulars, about
transportation of min-
erals prior to 1873.

Whatever authority
(if any) there is for this
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[Abstract:] Called only for copies of circulars... 43

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Respectfully,
Horatio C. Burchard
Director.

A. Loudon Snowden, Esq.,
Supt. Mint of the U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.